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For Immediate Release

STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI
On D.C. Circuit's Split Decision Upholding the FCC's Internet Regulations

WASHINGTON, June 14, 2016.—I am deeply disappointed by the D.C. Circuit's 2-1 decision upholding the FCC's Internet regulations. For many of the reasons set forth in Judge Williams' compelling dissent, I continue to believe that these regulations are unlawful, and I hope that the parties challenging them will continue the legal fight. The FCC's regulations are unnecessary and counterproductive. Indeed, as Judge Williams put it:

The ultimate irony of the Commission's unreasoned patchwork is that, refusing to inquire into competitive conditions, it shunts broadband service onto the legal track suited to natural monopolies. Because that track provides little economic space for new firms seeking market entry or relatively small firms seeking expansion through innovations in business models or in technology, the Commission's decision has a decent chance of bringing about the conditions under which some (but by no means all) of its actions could be grounded—the prevalence of incurable monopoly.

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